

I have two issues I would like to address. First, I would like to be able to use Medicare for teeth, eye glasses and hearing aids. Maybe not 100% but at least part of it, or see about lowering the price of hearing aids. Hearing affects a person's entire life, from working to simple social activities. If a person cannot hear, they cannot function normally. Hearing aids are one of the single most expensive necessary items an older person will buy. Hearing aids are not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or most insurance. I would like some help from someone in: a) being able to buy a hearing aid, or b) in bringing down their cost so I can afford one!

I'm 82 years old and do not take any medicine. I just recently was put on a blood pressure medicine but it upset my digestion so much and gave me the shakes that I decided not to take it. My doctor said that since I was 82, I could do what I wanted. So I started Chinese herbs, increased my exercise, went to my chiropractor, increased my vitamins and minerals, and was able to control my blood pressure that way. When I returned to my doctor he told me to keep doing what I was doing. Maybe I could get a discount on my Medicare or some help paying for my herbs and vitamins. For those of us that work hard to maintain our health and try to live a healthy lifestyle and take advantage of all that science has discovered concerning living a longer, healthier life...it seems we should receive some kind of compensation for this effort. Like a discount on my Medicare premiums. If I received a discount on my premiums, I could save up that money to buy a hearing aid.

I believe the government should not pay for our medicines. We are already grossly over-medicated and if the government starts to pay for our medicine, it will just mean that those taking medicine will increase their intake and those that aren't taking it will start to because it is free. It also seems to me a perfect opportunity for corruption. Many medicines could be avoided if people would change their lifestyle. Maybe the government should spend money on educating people to a healthy lifestyle rather than paying for their medicine.